

In the Claims

- 1 (Currently amended) A process to avoid formation and growth of coatings, films and slime aggregates formed by microorganism in the production of ~~for producing~~ formed cellulosic articles, such as fibres, filaments, sheetings, membranes or tubes, comprising
 - a) extruding a solution of cellulose in an aqueous amine oxide, particularly N-methylmorpholine N-oxide, through an extrusion die via an air gap and coagulating the formed article in an aqueous precipitation bath containing amine oxide, and
 - b) passing the formed article through at least one washing stage for removing residual amine oxide,characterized in that the liquor of the precipitation bath in the precipitation stage and/or the washing liquor in ~~of~~ the washing stage(s) is treated with ultra-violet radiation.
2. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the ultra-violet radiation has a wave length in the range from 200 to 280 nm.
3. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 2 wherein the ultra-violet radiation has a wave length of 254 nm.
4. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 2 wherein the ultra-violet radiation is generated by a mercury low-pressure lamp.
5. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 2 wherein the UV treatment is limited to the liquors of the washing stage(s) having a temperature below 50°C.
6. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein precipitation bath liquors or washing liquors having a Hazen color number $H_z \leq 400$ is subjected to the UV treatment.
7. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein the precipitation bath and several washing stages are connected in series and have liquor cycles of their own, characterized in that ~~the~~ cycle liquors of the precipitation bath and the first washing stage(s) are treated with ultra-violet radiation.

8. (Currently amended) The process according to claim 6 1 characterized in that power of the UV-radiation is in cycle liquors are irradiated with a power in the range from 0.1 to 1.0 Wh/l.
9. (Previously presented) A system for reducing unwanted microorganisms in liquors containing amine oxide, comprising:
a precipitation bath; and
a series of washing stages communicatively connected to each other and the precipitation bath wherein the precipitation bath and at least one of the washing stages comprise a UV radiation source positioned for irradiating the washing liquor therein with ultra-violet radiation to reduce unwanted microorganisms in the washing liquor.
10. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein the ultra-violet radiation has a wave length in the range from 200 to 280 nm.
11. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein the ultra-violet radiation has a wave length of 254 nm.
12. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein the ultra-violet radiation is generated by a mercury low-pressure lamp.
13. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein the irradiation treatment is limited to the liquors of the washing stage(s) having a temperature below 50°C.
14. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 9 wherein liquors in the precipitation and/or washing stages having a Hazen color number $H_z \leq 400$ is subjected to the UV treatment.
15. (Previously presented) A method for reducing unwanted microorganisms in washing liquors containing amine oxide, comprising:
irradiating washing liquor containing a N-methylmorpholine N-oxide in at least one washing stage with ultra-violet radiation in a sufficient amount to effectively reduce unwanted microorganisms therein, the ultra-violet radiation having a wave length in the range from 200 to 280 nm.